

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 18193 151800Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 151755Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1231

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 18193

EXDIS

FOR EUR/WE BARBOUR FROM DCM GAMMON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR US

SUBJECT: MITTERRAND'S PLANS TO VISIT US

REF: (A) STATE 164232; (B) PARIS 17817

1. ROBERT PONTILLON, SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, INFORMED US TUESDAY AFTERNOON THAT MITTERRAND HAS ACCEPTED PERSONAL INVITATION FROM PRESIDENT SENGHOR TO VISIT SENEGAL LAST WEEK IN OCTOBER. THIS WOULD ENCROACH TOO HEAVILY ON PERIOD OF OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 2 PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED AS ONE OF TWO OPTIONS FOR MITTERRAND'S US VISIT (REF B). MITTERRAND WOULD PREFER, THEREFORE, THAT VISIT TAKE PLACE DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6-12. IF NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE WASHINGTON REQUIREMENTS, MITTERRAND COULD ARRIVE IN THE U.S. AS EARLY AS OCTOBER 4, BUT HE WOULD PREFER TO STICK WITH THE PROPOSED OCTOBER 6 ARRIVAL DATE.

2. PONTILLON WAS AT PAINS TO STRESS THAT "REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAS BEEN STATED TO DATE IN PARIS OR WASHINGTON," NEITHER MITTERRAND NOR THE SOCIALIST PARTY IS INSISTING ON A WHITE HOUSE CALL AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE VISIT. WHILE THE SOCIALIST PARTY WOULD CONSIDER IT AN HONOR AND HIGHLY DESIRABLE FOR MITTERRAND TO BE RECEIVED BY THE
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PAGE 02 PARIS 18193 151800Z

PRESIDENT, THEY WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SUCH A CALL

IS NOT A SINE QUA NON.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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